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39. (Amended) A method for making an agent for treating pain comprising the step of producing a polypeptide from a gene having codes for at least one component of the agent, wherein the agent comprises

as J

- a therapeutic component, and
- a targeting ligand coupled to the therapeutic component, the targeting ligand being effective to bind to the alpha-2B or alpha-2B/alpha-2C adrenergic receptor subtype(s).

## Please and claims 68-71 as follows:

- 68. (New) The agent of claim 1, wherein the targeting ligand selectively binds to the alpha-2B or alpha-2B/alpha-2C adrenergic receptor subtype(s) as compared to the alpha-2A adrenergic receptor subtype.
- 69. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the targeting ligand of the agent selectively binds to the alpha-2B or alpha-2B/alpha-2C adrenergic receptor subtype(s) as compared to the alpha-2A adrenergic receptor subtype.

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